Comparative evaluation of ecotourism capacity identification models (Case study: Khuzestan province)

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Introduction:

Environmental assessment simply means giving value to a unit of land, and since Iran has a climate of regional diversity and heterogeneity, adopting the same model for assessing and identifying capacities is difficult and will not yield the desired and fruitful results. In fact, in macro and regional planning, twisting the same version for all regions will be nothing but wasting financial and human resources, so in this study, by paying attention to this issue and paying attention to the forthcoming capacities in the tourism dimension, we try to do the same. We will be. One of the essential points of the research is that along with other evaluation models, which are generally based on the ecological potential of the environment, considering the environmental dimensions, we try to consider human criteria along with natural criteria to achieve. it is likely that the optimal model (based on land management) will provide more realistic capacity for ecotourism capabilities than the ecological model. There is no doubt that tourism activities should be based on sustainable patterns while preserving natural resources. The sustainable environmental dimension is characterized by the combination of environmental factors with tourism resources and their interactions, which should not be affected by fundamental changes, let's not forget that before taking any action and decision, planning is the most important step.

Matherials & Methods:

In order to provide the grounds for the growth of tourism activities in the development process with a rational view. The method of this research is applied and based on analytical-descriptive nature and seeks to use GIS geographic information system by considering natural, social, economic, and physical criteria and indicators, places with ecological tourism potential. Identify and compare the optimal model (based on land management) and ecological model. The criteria of the two models of ecological power and land management model were evaluated according to the Delphi questionnaire. It has been used in the basic plan of provincial planning and valid university books. Finally, Ardes software has been used to test the hypothesis, so that the final maps should be converted to raster. Initially, the criteria of the two models of ecological power and land management model were evaluated according to the Delphi questionnaire. For the Delphi technique, 20 questionnaires were distributed among experts on the subject of research.

Discussion of Results & Conclusions:

By adapting the constructed maps and considering the current situation derived from Google Earth, in Ardas software, considering 300 specified points, the general accuracy (0.717) to measure the ecotourism evaluation of Khuzestan province based on the ecological power model has been obtained.

Table 1: Evaluation of ecotourism ecological power model

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
CID * refrence	300	100.0%	0	0.0%	300	100.0%

CID * refrence Crosstabulation

Count

		refrence			Total
		1	2	3	
CID	1	64	0	2	66
	2	13	93	6	112
	3	30	6	86	122
Total		107	99	94	300

Symmetric Measures

	Value	Asymp. Std. Error[a]	Approx. T[b]	Approx. Sig.

Measure of Agreement Kappa	.717	.033	18.017	.000
N of Valid Cases	300			

a. Not assuming the null hypothesis.

b. Using the asymptotic standard error assuming the null hypothesis.

By implementing the constructed maps and considering the current situation derived from Google Earth, in Ardas software, considering the 300 specified points, the overall accuracy (0.865) for measuring the optimal ecotourism model of Khuzestan province based on the land management model is obtained. Come.

Table 2: Evaluation of the optimal ecotourism model with a planning approach

Case Processing Summary

	Cases					
	Valid		Missing		Total	
	N	Percent	N	Percent	N	Percent
CID * refrence	300	100.0%	0	0.0%	300	100.0%

CID * refrence Crosstabulation

Count

		refrence			Total
		1	2	3	
CID	1	96	2	2	100
	2	3	91	6	100
	3	8	6	86	100
Total		107	99	94	300

Symmetric Measures

	Value	Asymp. Std. Error[a]	Approx. T[b]	Approx. Sig.
Measure of Agreement Kappa	.865	.025	21.203	.000
N of Valid Cases	300			

a. Not assuming the null hypothesis.

b. Using the asymptotic standard error assuming the null hypothesis.

In the ecological power assessment model of ecotourism, more attention is paid to natural factors such as slope, geographical direction, climate, soil texture, soil depth and fertility, erosion and vegetation along with other natural factors, which are considered and measured. It is in line with the current ratio of 0.717, which is defined by experts at a good level.

On the other hand, the evaluation of ecotourism with the optimal method, which has been done with the approach of land management, which is a flexible method in planning and can be defended in order to recognize the fields and opportunities of ecotourism, has been used. In this regard, in addition to natural criteria (for geography, slope, altitude, etc.), human criteria such as urbanization, income and savings, employment and access, etc. have been considered to measure ecotourism evaluation.

Taking into account these factors, along with other important natural factors in the evaluations, the coefficient of 0.865 has been obtained according to the specified 300 points, which according to the opinion of experts in this field is in an excellent category. has been hypothesized that the optimal model (based on land management) is likely to provide more realistic capacities for ecotourism capabilities than the ecological model. The research hypothesis can be confirmed according to the obtained coefficient of 0.865 for the optimal land management model in relation to the results of the ecological model which determined the number 0.717. In this study, the identification of ecotourism capacities was evaluated by looking at power evaluation based on two models of ecological power and optimal model based on land management and at the end of the study and the specified coefficient showed that using both evaluation models can solve many problems.